

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*care*

The Honorable Edgar W. Hiestand  
House of Representatives  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hiestand:

With reference to your request of 4 August 1954 for data on Soviet gold production and stocks, I am forwarding the following:

The present gold stockpile of the USSR is estimated at approximately 140,000,000 troy ounces. At the official price of \$35 per ounce, this reserve represents a value of roughly \$5 billion.

Although the USSR has exported gold steadily since World War II and has accelerated its sales since the last quarter of 1953 when shipments worth more than \$100,000,000 were made, its reserve is being replenished from current production estimated as high as 10,000,000 troy ounces per year (worth \$350,000,000 at the official price).

The newest and largest of the Soviet gold fields is in the Kolyma and Indigirka River basins. This area, which is located in northeastern Siberia near the Arctic Circle, accounts for about one-third of the USSR's annual production. Second in importance is the Lena River field which is administered from Yakutsk. Of lesser significance are the Alder River fields and the fields near Irkutsk. The Urals region, the original Russian gold mining area, now contributes only a small share of total Soviet output. With the mines there now largely depleted, the centers of production have shifted toward eastern Siberia.

DOCUMENT NO. 47  
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐  
☐ DECLASSIFIED  
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S 02011 25X1  
NEXT REVIEW DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
AUTH: HR 70-2  
DATE: 010581 REVIEWER: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONFIDENTIAL**

WN 22274

C. O. G. R. E. S. S.

CONFIDENTIAL

The Kolyma-Indigirka fields are located within the Dalstroj administrative area.

I am happy to be of help to you in this matter.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

Distribution:

2 - DCI

1 - ER

2 - DD/I

CONCUR:

*Rem*

*1 - ER - w/ base*

*[Signature]*

--

Acting Deputy Director/Intelligence

CONFIDENTIAL

EDGAR W. HIESTAND  
21ST DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

Approved For Release 2003/03/07 : CIA-RDP80R01731R001600080039-9

COMMITTEE:  
BANKING AND CURRENCY

ER 5-8732

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

August 4, 1954

Honorable Allen W. Dulles  
Administrator  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

As a member of the Banking and Currency Committee,  
I am very much interested in gold resources, especially as reportedly available in Russia.

Any information your Department can furnish regarding  
"Dalstroy" and its activities, together with an estimate  
of the probable amount of gold mined and held by the  
Soviet Union will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Edgar W. Hiestand, M. C.

EWH:md

Document No. 48  
Review of this document by CIA has  
determined that

- ☐ CIA has no objection to declass
- ☐ It contains information of CIA  
interest that must remain  
classified at TS S (C)  
Authority: HR 70-2
- ☐ It contains nothing of

Date 010581 Review

STAT

Approved For Release 2003/03/07 : CIA-RDP80R01731R001600080039-9

WN 22274

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <span>UNCLASSIFIED</span> <span>RESTRICTED</span> <span>CONFIDENTIAL</span> <span>SECRET</span> </div> <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.7em;">(SENDER WILL CIRCLE CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM)</div>			
<b>CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY</b> <b>OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP</b>			
<b>TO</b>		<b>INITIALS</b>	<b>DATE</b>
1	DO/1		
2			
3			
4			
5			
<b>FROM</b>		<b>INITIALS</b>	<b>DATE</b>
1	16	BSK	Sang
2			
3			
<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;"> <div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL</div> <div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION</div> <div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE</div> <div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> ACTION</div> <div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> DIRECT REPLY</div> <div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> RETURN</div> <div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> COMMENT</div> <div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> PREPARATION OF REPLY</div> <div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> DISPATCH</div> <div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> CONCURRENCE</div> <div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMENDATION</div> <div style="width: 33%;"><input type="checkbox"/> FILE</div> </div> <p><b>Remarks:</b></p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; margin-top: 10px;"><i>Could you draft a reply?</i></p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; margin-top: 10px;"><i>By 10 Aug?</i></p>			